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insect *Lachnus Strobilus*, Fitch. The botanical portion deals with a description of the region of Ajusco and of Las Cruces explored, with an enumeration of the plants collected, as also meteorological tables showing the climate of Guadalupe, Ajusco, City of Mexico, and Hacienda de Eslava for July, 1895. A description of the plants new to the valley of Mexico forms a portion of the pamphlet, the following plants being noted, *Halenia candida* Ramirez and *Passiflora eslavensis* Ramirez. The pamphlet closes with a discussion of hydrology of the region, in which chemical analyses are shown of the potable waters, which might be introduced into use.

3. One of the most interesting publications recently issued by the National Medical Institute, under the auspices of the Secretary of Agriculture and the direction of Fernando Altamirano, is one dealing with the gradual disappearance of Lake Texcoco, which is being hastened by the drainage operations now being carried forward to completion. The publication entitled *Estudios referentes a la Desecación del Lago de Texcoco Año de 1895, Primera Parte*, is one of 126 pages, dealing first with the meteorology of the region and the rate of evaporation from the lake. The second portion deals with the fauna of Lake Texcoco, by Prof. Herrera, a most interesting study to the biologist; a discussion of the influence of malaria on the hygiene of the capital follows, with a description of the geography and climatology of the lake, presented by Dr. Domingo Orvañanos. Accompanying the report are a series of graphic tables illustrative of the evaporation and meteorology of the lake.

4. *Anales del Instituto Medico Nacional. Tomo I. Num. 8, Mexico, 1896.*

This number is devoted to *Materia Medica*, or a pharmaceutical description of certain Mexican plants, such as: *Aristolochia fragrantissima*, Ruiz., *A. fatida*, H. B. K., *A. odoratissima*, L., *A. anquicida*, L., *Mikania Houstonis*, Wild., *M. scandens*, Wild., *Dorstenia contrayerba*, L., *Pluchea odorata*, Cav., *Eryngium aquaticum*, L., *Poinsettia pulcherrima*, Graham, and a chemical study of *Jatropha spatulata*.

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NEW BOOKS.

Life Histories of North American Birds. CHARLES BENDIRE. Washington, Government Printing Office. 1895. Pp. ix + 518.

A History of Elementary Mathematics. FLORIAN CAJORI. New York and London, The Macmillan Company. 1896. Pp. viii + 304. \$1.50.

An Outline of Psychology. EDWARD BRADFORD TITCHENER. London and New York, The Macmillan Company. 1896. Pp. xiv + 352. \$1.50.

The Crowd, A Study of the Popular Mind. GUSTAVE LE BON. New York, The Macmillan Company. 1896. Pp. xxiv + 230. \$1.50.

Education of the Central Nervous System. RUBEN POST HALLECK. New York and London, The Macmillan Company. Pp. ix + 258. \$1.00.

Elements of Solid Geometry and Mensuration. HENRY DALLAS THOMPSON. New York and London, The Macmillan Company. 1896. Pp. vii + 199. \$1.25.

Röntgen Rays and Phenomenon of the Anode and Cathode. EDWARD P. THOMPSON and WILLIAM A. ANTHONY. New York, D. Van Nostrand Company. 1896. Pp. xix + 190.

Report of the Sixth Meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Brisbane, January, 1895. Edited by JOHN SHIRLEY. Published by the Association, Sydney, N. S. W. Pp. xxxiv + 875.

Peru: Beobachtungen und Studien über das Land und seine Bewohner. E. W. MIDDENDORF. Berlin, Robert Oppenheim. 1893, 1894, 1895. Vol. I., xxvii + 638; Vol. II., xii + 424; Vol. III., xv + 603. M. 48.

Handbuch der Praktischen Gewerbehygiene mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Unfallverhütung. Herausgegeben von DR. H. ALBRECHT. Mit 756 Figuren. Berlin, Robert Oppenheim. 1896. Pp. xi + 1053. M. 27.

Bulletin of the U. S. National Museum, No. 47: The Fishes of North and Central America. DAVID STARR JORDAN and BARTON WARREN EVERMANN. Part I. Washington, Government Printing Office. 1896. Pp. lx + 1240.